

CLAIMS:

1. A method of customizing a rule-based application, the method comprising:
designating a customizable element of a set as a customizable template; and
compiling said customizable element into at least one object to form a ruleset.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein said set comprises a ruleset.
3. The method of claim 1, further comprising parsing said set to detect said customizable element designated as a customizable template.
4. The method of claim 1, further comprising customizing said element.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein said element comprises a variable.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein said element comprises a rule.
7. The method of claim 1, wherein said element comprises a ruleset.
8. The method of claim 1, further comprising designating a ruleset of said set as a customizable ruleset template.
9. The method of claim 8, further comprising generating a customized ruleset from the customizable ruleset template.
10. The method of claim 1, further comprising enabling customization in a deployment environment.

11. The method of claim 1, further comprising enabling customization in a development environment.
12. The method of claim 1, further comprising re-editing a previously generated rule.
13. The method of claim 1, wherein a new ruleset is generated from a customizable ruleset template, and a pre-existing customizable rule template is associated with said new ruleset and is unchanged.
14. A system for customizing a rule-based application, the system comprising:
means for designating a customizable element of a set as a customizable template;
and
means for compiling said customizable element into at least one object to form a ruleset.
15. The system of claim 14, wherein said set comprises a ruleset.
16. The system of claim 14, further comprising means for parsing said set to detect said customizable element designated as a customizable template.
17. The system of claim 14, further comprising means for customizing said element.
18. The system of claim 14, wherein said element comprises a variable.
19. The system of claim 14, wherein said element comprises a rule.
20. The system of claim 14, wherein said element comprises a ruleset.

21. The system of claim 14, further comprising means for designating a ruleset of said set as a customizable ruleset template.
22. The system of claim 21 further comprising means for generating a customized ruleset from said customizable ruleset template.
23. The system of claim 14 further comprising means for enabling customization in a deployment environment.
24. The system of claim 14 further comprising means for enabling customization in a development environment.
25. The system of claim 14 further comprising means for re-editing a previously generated rule.
26. A computer-readable media for storing software instructions for customizing a rule-based application, which when executed by a processor perform the steps of:
designating a customizable element of a set as a customizable template; and
compiling said customizable element into at least one object to form a ruleset.
27. The computer-readable media of claim 26, wherein said set comprises a ruleset.
28. The computer-readable media of claim 26, wherein said instructions further performing the step of parsing said set to detect said customizable element designated as a customizable template.
29. The computer-readable media of claim 26, wherein said instructions further performing the step of customizing said element.

30. The computer-readable media of claim 26, wherein said instructions further performing the step of designating a ruleset of said set as a customizable ruleset template.

31. The computer-readable media of claim 30, wherein said instructions further performing the step of generating a customized ruleset from the customizable ruleset template.